

**AMENDMENTS****In the Claims**

1 1. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method comprising installing a driver  
2 package onto a computer using a side by side installer by:  
3 receiving a driver package;  
4 generating a strong name for the driver package; and  
5 assigning a storage location for driver files associated with the driver package based on  
6 the strong name wherein the driver files include a driver image file; and  
7 loading the driver image file from the storage location into a memory on the computer to  
8 link the computer to the peripheral device.

1 2. (Canceled)

2 3. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the driver files include at least one of  
3 a driver image file and a service name.

1 4. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein generating the strong name for the  
2 driver package includes hashing at least one of the driver files associated with the driver  
3 package.

1 5. (Original) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the at least one driver file includes  
2 any one of a driver catalog file, a setup information file, and a driver image file.

1 6. (Original) A method according to Claim 4, wherein generating the strong name for the

2 driver package includes concatenating the hash of the at least one driver file to at least one of a  
3 driver catalog file and a public key from the driver package.

1 7. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein assigning a storage location to driver  
2 files from the driver package in accordance with the strong name includes assigning at least one  
3 driver file associated with the driver package to a subdirectory in a driver store.

1 8. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein assigning a storage location to data  
2 from the driver package in accordance with the strong name includes assigning service name  
3 parameters to a service name database.

1 9. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method, comprising:  
2 generating a unique identity for respective driver packages to which commonly named  
3 driver files correspond on a computer; and  
4 assigning driver files associated with the individual driver packages to subdirectories in a  
5 common storage based on the unique identity wherein the driver files include a driver image file;  
6 and  
7 loading the driver from one of the subdirectories into a memory on the computer to link  
8 the computer to the peripheral device.

1 10. (Canceled)

1 11. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the driver files further  
2 include at least one of a driver image file and a service name.

1 12. (Original) A method according to Claim 9, wherein generating the unique identity for the  
2 respective driver packages to which commonly named driver files correspond includes hashing at  
3 least one driver file associated with the driver package.

1 13. (Original) A method according to Claim 12, wherein generating the unique identity for  
2 the respective driver packages to which commonly named driver files correspond includes  
3 appending a vendor's digital signature to the hash.

1 14. (Original) A method according to Claim 9, wherein assigning driver files from the  
2 respective driver packages to subdirectories in a common storage avoids overwriting previous  
3 versions of commonly named driver files.

1 15. (Original) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the assigning includes assigning  
2 driver image files from the respective driver packages to subdirectories in a driver store based on  
3 the unique identity for the driver package to which the respective driver image files correspond.

1 16. (Original) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the assigning includes assigning  
2 service names from the respective driver packages to a service name database that includes a  
3 service key and an image path corresponding to one of the driver files.

1 17. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium having one or more  
2 instructions to be executed by one or more processors, the one or more instructions causing the  
3 one or more processors to:

4 generate a strong name for a driver package;

5 assign a storage location for a driver file associated with the driver package based on the  
6 strong name wherein the driver file is a driver image file; and  
7 cause the one or more processors to further load the driver from the storage location into  
8 a memory to link the computer to the peripheral device.

1 18. (Canceled)

1 19. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 17,  
2 wherein the strong name is a hash of at least one driver file associated with the driver package.

1 20. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 17,  
2 wherein the strong name incorporates at least one of a driver catalog file and a public key  
3 corresponding to a vendor of the driver package.

1 21. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 17,  
2 wherein the driver file is at least one of a driver image file and a co-installer, and wherein further  
3 the storage location is a driver store subdirectory.

1 22. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 17,  
2 wherein the driver file is a service name, and wherein further the storage location is database to  
3 store a corresponding service key and image path.

1 23. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to Claim 17,  
2 wherein the one or more instructions causing the one or more processors to assign a storage  
3 location for the driver file associated with the driver package refrains from assigning previously

4 assigned storage locations.

1 24. (Currently amended) ~~[[Aa]]~~ A computer implemented apparatus, comprising:  
2 an installer to generate a strong name for a driver package; and  
3 a storage to install files associated with the driver package based on the strong name  
4 wherein the files associated with the driver package include a driver; and  
5 wherein the apparatus further includes a loader to load the driver into a memory.

1 25. (Canceled)

1 26. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein the installer is to generate the  
2 strong name as a hash function of at least one driver file related to the driver package.

1 27. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein the installer is to generate the  
2 strong name by incorporating at least one of a digital signature and a public key related to the  
3 driver package.

1 28. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein the storage includes a  
2 subdirectory corresponding to the strong name.

1 29. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the storage is a driver  
2 store, and wherein further the files include ~~at least one of a driver image file and~~ a co-installer.

1 30. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the storage is a database, and  
2 wherein further the files include a service name having a corresponding service key and image

3 path.

1 31. (Currently Amended) ~~[[An]]~~ A computer implemented apparatus, comprising:  
2 means for generating a strong name for a driver package; ~~and~~  
3 means for storing files associated with the driver package based on the strong name  
4 wherein the files associated with the driver package include a driver image file; and  
5 means for loading the driver image file into a memory.

1 32. (Canceled)

1 33. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein the means for generating hashes  
2 at least one driver file from the driver package.

1 34. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein means for generating  
2 incorporates a digital signature related to the driver package into the strong name.

1 35. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein the means for storing has a  
2 subdirectory corresponding to the strong name.

1 36. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein the means for storing has a  
2 subdirectory for storing at least one of a driver package, a driver image file, and a co-installer.

1 37. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein the means for storing stores a  
2 service name having a corresponding service key and image path.

- 1 38. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein the means for storing stores a
- 2 pointer from an operating system to a driver file for a particular device.